# **Spring Mill State Park**

#### All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

**Programs at all our state parks and reservoirs:** www.interpretiveservices.in.gov/programs

#### **Nature Center**

Open Daily 10am-5pm

Virgil I. Grissom Memorial Open Daily 8:30am-4pm

**Pioneer Village & Twin Caves** 

Watch for the roving naturalist!



Look for our hikes and strolls!



Closed for the Season

Please arrive on time for scheduled programs. Spring Mill State Park follows Eastern Daylight Time.

#### Public programs are designed for individuals and families.

If you will be bringing an organized group, contact the Nature Center in advance for a copy of our program catalogue and schedule a private program just for your group (prices vary). (812) 849-4129

#### Get advance notice of special events and programs!

Sign up for our email list at the Nature Center, Pioneer Village Grist Mill, Spring Mill Inn, or email springmillstatepark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

#### HP-HP Healthy Parks – Healthy People

Get "INShape" with us, and discover what it takes to keep a state park healthy.

2008 Special Event List for Spring Mill State Park Now Available by Request at the Nature Center

# **January 2008**

#### **Tuesday, January 1**

Nature Center and Grissom Memorial are closed today for the New Year's holiday.

#### Wednesday, January 2

Memories on Display – Create a unique wire photo holder to display all those 3:30pm happy holiday photos! Nature Center, Program Room (30 min).

## **Thursday, January 3**

1:30pm Caves of Spring Mill – The underground of Spring Mill State Park is a vast network or caverns and passageways. During this slideshow presentation, you'll take a peak inside the three largest cave systems in the park. Nature Center,

Program Room (45 min).

2:30pm **Slender Salamanders** – Learn about the cave salamander, a common resident in

the twilight zone of Spring Mill's caves, and make a salamander craft to take home. Nature Center, Program Room (30 min).

#### Friday, January 4

**3:30pm** Winter Wildlife – Join us as we search for signs of animals out and about during the winter months. Meet on the top level of the Nature Center (45 min).

#### Saturday, January 5

1:30pm

**The Old Woods** – Learn how to identify the 300+ year-old trees in Donaldson Woods while discovering the history behind their preservation. Meet at Twin Caves parking lot (45 min).

3:30pm

**Spotlight on Snakes** – Check out our year-round resident snakes while learning how their outdoor cousins are currently making it through the winter. Nature Center, Top Level (30 min).

## **Sunday, January 6**

1:30pm

**Pioneer Village History Stroll** – From it's beginnings in 1814 to it's downfall in the 1890s, explore the history of Spring Mill Village on this walking tour. Meet in front of the Weaver's Cabin in the Pioneer Village (1 hr).

## **Monday, January 7**

## 2008 Nature Poetry Contest Opens Today!

(ontest guidelines and instructions may be picked up at the Nature Center, downloaded from www.interpretiveservices.in.gov/programs, or emailed to you upon request (call the Nature Center at 812-849-4129 and leave your email address).

Entries accepted from today through March 15.

Prizes awarded to the top two adult entries and to the top two children's entries!

#### **Saturday, January 12**

2:00pm



**1880s** Lime Kiln Hike – Join us on a hike to check out an old quarry and two historic lime kilns that rest on a hillside overlooking Spring Mill Lake. You'll learn about the history of these kilns and how they were used. Meet on the top level of the Nature Center (45 min).

#### **Sunday, January 13**

1:00pm

**Makin' Tracks** – Learn to recognize some of the tracks left in the snow by animals out and about during the winter and make a simple track guide to carry with you on your winter hikes. Nature Center, Program Room (45 min).





#### Saturday, January 19

1:30pm

**Light the Night** – Create a small, votive candle lantern to help light up the darkness tonight while we learn about some winter stars that light up the evening sky. Nature Center, Program Room (45 min).

## **Sunday, January 20**

2:00pm

**Snowy Day** – Make a pair of "snowy" coasters to make your winter retreat a little more comfortable and learn what animals do to make it through the winter in comfort too. Nature Center, Program Room (30 min).

#### Thursday, January 24

# Wheat Weaving Workshop

Wheat weaving is a traditional craft that became popular during the 1800s, although its origins are much older. Traditionally, the last sheaf of grain harvested from the fields was woven into a decorative design. The earliest weavings represented fertility and were returned to the field the following spring to ensure a bountiful harvest. As time passed, designs became more varied and expanded into symbols of love, prosperity, and protection.

During this workshop, you'll learn the basics of this traditional craft and create three different wheat weavings - two simple February 2 designs and one design that's a little more complex.



The workshop meets in the Oak Room of the Spring Mill Inn from 10:30am to 2:00pm.

Cost is \$15/person and includes a buffet lunch in the Millstone Dining Room; limited to 20 participants.

Pre-registration is required to the Spring Mill Inn (812-849-4081) by January 20!

#### **Saturday, January 26**

3:00pm



Our Feathered Friends – Join us on a hike to look for water birds enjoying Spring Mill Lake and discover why some many of them flock to the park during the winter. Meet in front of Spring Mill Inn (45-60 min).

#### **Sunday, January 27**

2:00pm



Catch the Rays – Sunlight is a treasured commodity during the winter. Learn why the sun's light is so limited this time of year while making a pretty sun-catcher to highlight the rays that do make it down to us. Nature Center, Program Room (30 min).

# February & March Special Events

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Geocache Challenge

February 14 Owls in "Love" Evening Hike (\$1/person)

February 23 FrogWatch Training

March 13 Build a Bluebird Box Workshop (\$18/person, includes buffet lunch; pre-registration required)

March 23 Easter Egg Hunt